

CLAIMS

5a)

1 1. A method in a computer system for bidding on auctions, the method
2 comprising:
3 receiving an indication of a plurality of auctions;
4 receiving an indication of a bidding technique to apply to the indicated
5 auctions; and
6 participating in some of the indicated auctions in accordance with the indicated
7 bidding technique.

1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes placing a
2 bid at the auction with the lowest current bid whenever being outbid.

1 3. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes placing a
2 bid at more than one of the plurality of auctions so that multiple bids are pending
3 simultaneously.

1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the number of bids to place corresponds
2 to the number of auctions that is desired to be won.

1 5. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes bidding
2 at an auction only after winning another auction.

1 6. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes bidding
2 at an auction until reaching a maximum bid and then bidding at multiple auctions so that
3 multiple bids are pending simultaneously.

1 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes bidding
2 at an auction only after winning another auction.

1 8. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes a
2 combination of placing a bid at the auction with the lowest current bid whenever being
3 outbid, bidding at a first auction until reaching a maximum bid and then bidding on a second
4 auction, and bidding at a second auction only after winning a first auction.

1 9. The method of claim 1 wherein the bidding technique includes not
2 bidding on an auction when the current bid of that auction exceeds a maximum bid.

1 10. A method in a computer system for inputting multiple auction bidding
2 requirements, the method comprising:
3 receiving an indication of a plurality of auctions; and
4 receiving an indication of a bidding technique to apply to the indicated
5 auctions.

1 11. The method of claim 10 including receiving an indication of a maximum
2 bid for an auction.

1 12. The method of claim 10 wherein the bidding technique includes winning
2 at most a certain number of the auctions at the lowest price.

1 13. The method of claim 10 wherein the bidding technique includes bidding
2 at an auction only after winning another auction.

1 14. The method of claim 10 wherein the bidding technique includes, in
2 response to winning an auction bidding, at multiple auctions so that multiple bids are
3 pending simultaneously.

1 15. The method of claim 10 wherein the bidding technique includes bidding
2 at an auction only after losing another auction.

1 24. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the bidding plan indicates to
2 win at no more than a certain number of auctions.

1 25. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the bidding plan indicates to
2 bid at an auction until reaching a maximum bid amount and then bidding at another auction.

1 26. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the bidding plan indicates to
2 bid at an auction until reaching a maximum bid amount and then bidding at multiple
3 auctions.

1 27. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the bidding plan indicates to,
2 upon winning a certain number of auctions; bid at that certain number of other auctions.

1 28. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the bidding plan indicates to
2 bid at an auction only if a condition relating to another auction is satisfied.

1 29. The computer system of claim 28 wherein the condition is winning the
2 auction.

1 30. The computer system of claim 28 wherein the condition is losing the
2 auction.

1 31. The computer system of claim 28 wherein the condition is when the
2 bidding at the auction exceeds a maximum price.

1 32. The computer system of claim 22 wherein the multiple auctions are
2 conducted by different entities.

1 33. A computer system for bidding on auctions, the system comprising:
2 means for receiving a bidding plan that specifies to bid at multiple auctions;
3 and
4 means for placing bid on auctions in accordance with the bidding plan.

1 34. The computer system of claim 33 wherein the bidding plan indicates to
2 place a bid at the auction with the lowest current bid whenever being outbid.

1 35. The computer system of claim 33 wherein the bidding plan indicates to
2 bid at an auction only if a condition relating to another auction is satisfied.

1 36. The computer system of claim 35 wherein the condition is winning the
2 auction.

1 37. The computer system of claim 35 wherein the condition is losing the
2 auction.

1 38. The computer system of claim 35 wherein the condition is when the
2 bidding at the auction exceeds a maximum price.

1 39. The computer system of claim 33 wherein the multiple auctions are
2 conducted by different entities.

1 40. A computer-readable medium containing instructions for controlling a
2 computer system to bid at auctions, by a method comprising:
3 receiving an indication of a plurality of auctions;
4 receiving an indication of a bidding technique to apply to the indicated
5 auctions; and
6 participating in some of the indicated auctions in accordance with the indicated
7 bidding technique.

1 41. The computer-readable medium of claim 40 wherein the bidding
2 technique indicates to place a bid at the auction with the lowest current bid whenever being
3 outbid.

1 42. The computer-readable medium of claim 40 wherein the bidding
2 technique indicates to bid at an auction only if a condition relating to another auction is
3 satisfied.

1 43. The computer-readable medium of claim 42 wherein the condition is
2 winning the auction.

1 44. The computer-readable medium of claim 42 wherein the condition is
2 losing the auction.

1 45. The computer-readable medium of claim 42 wherein the condition is
2 when the bidding at the auction exceeds a maximum price.

1 46. The computer-readable medium of claim 40 wherein the plurality
2 auctions are conducted by different entities.

1 47. The computer-readable medium of claim 40 wherein the plurality of
2 auction are hosted by at least two different servers.